

1 - REMARKS

- Claims 1–9 are currently pending;
- Claims 1-9 have been canceled;
- Claims 10-41 have been added.
- No new matter has been added;
- Of the pending claims, only claim 10 is independent;
- Claims 10-41 are in condition for allowance.

1. Claim Objections

Claims **5 and 7** are objected to as a result of various informalities. As claims **5 and 7** are cancelled herein, the objections to claims **5 and 7** are rendered moot.

2. Claim Rejections – Section 102

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by both Marnell (US 5,259,613) and Finnegan. The Examiner asserted that both Marnell and Finnegan disclose the various elements of claim 1. Applicants respectfully note that, as claim 1 is cancelled herein, the rejections of claim 1 are rendered moot.

The Examiner rejected claims **1-6 and 8-9** under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Wynn (US 5,971,271). Applicants respectfully note that, as all of claims **1-6 and 8-9** are cancelled herein, the rejections of claims **1-6 and 8-9** are likewise rendered moot.

3. Claim Rejections – Section 103

Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wynn in view of Walker (US 6,068,552) or over Wynn in view of Walker and either Pease (US 5,326,104) or Marks (US 5,755,621). Applicants respectfully note that, as claim 7 is cancelled herein, the rejection of claim 7 is rendered moot.

4. Amendments

Applicants respectfully note that the specification has been amended to recite a cross reference to related U.S. Patent Application No. 11/552,793 filed on October 25, 2006 in the name of Walker et al. and entitled “METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GENERATING DIRECTIVES FOR PERSONNEL”. No new matter has been added.

Claims **10-41** have been added herein. Applicants respectfully assert that support for each of claims **10-41** can be found, at least, in the specification at pages 52, line 8 – page 54, line 21. As a result, no new matter has been added.

Applicants respectfully reassert that neither Marnell, Finnegan, Wynn, Walker, Pease, nor Marks individually teach or suggest selecting a player of a gaming device to receive a portable communication device, obtaining a player identifier from the player, and supplying the portable communication device to the player. With specific reference to the disclosure of Finnegan, Applicants note that here is provided no teaching or suggestion of obtaining a player identifier from the player. As claim **10** recites these elements, Applicants respectfully submit that new claim **10** is allowable. Applicants further assert that no combination of such art, such a combination neither suggested nor deemed appropriate, suffices to teach the recited elements of

claim **10**. As all of claims **11-41** depend upon claim **10**, they are likewise allowable.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons it is submitted that all of claims **10-20** are now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's early re-examination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Alternatively, if there remains any question regarding the present application or any of the cited references, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is cordially requested to contact Jeffrey Ambroziak at telephone number (203) 461-7317 or via electronic mail at jambroziak@walkerdigital.com.

Applicants are filing this amendment within one month of the three month statutory time for reply and, as a result, a petition for a one month extension of time and the associated fees are filed herewith. If any additional fees should be necessary for the present Application at this time (or any time during the prosecution of the present Application), please charge any such required fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0271. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0271.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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